

REMARKS

For convenience, the following headings are the same as those provided in the Office Action, and for the sake of continuity, Applicants will address each item raised by the Examiner in the order presented in the Office Action under its appropriate heading.

Specification

The information set forth under “Related Applications” contained a typographical error, in which the serial number for the parent application contained transposed numbers. The amendment sets forth the correct serial number, which is 10/016,227. The original application correctly identified the filing date of the parent application (October 31, 2001) in the same paragraph, and the inventors in both applications are Leon Kerger and Bert Pistor, which is sufficient information with which to identify the correct application. Applicant previously addressed this matter via preliminary amendment filed September 10, 2004, however, since the examiner addressed the matter again in his office action dated December 28, 2004, applicant has resubmitted this amendment.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

The examiner indicated that Claims 1-22 would be allowable if amended to correct the errors in the claims by inserting the proper wording to provide antecedent basis for some of the claim elements. Claims 1-22 were rejected by the examiner under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. The examiner’s rejections were based on lack of antecedent basis, for applicant’s incorrect statement of the claim elements. Applicant has amended the claims to correct the deficiencies noted by with the examiner’s requirements. In addition, Applicant has noted that the claim amendments submitted in the Preliminary Amendment were numbered incorrectly, in that claim number 18 was omitted. This numbering error has been addressed in this amendment, leaving a total of 21 claims pending in the case.

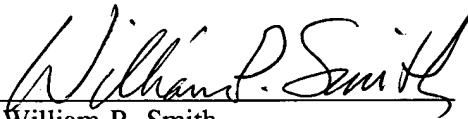
CONCLUSION

Applicants take note of the prior art made of record that was not relied upon by the Examiner. In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request review and reconsideration of the claims and allowance of this application. If the Examiner has

any remaining concerns, he is invited to telephone the undersigned in an effort to resolve any such concerns before issuing another Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

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